



ZERO BEAT

Southeastern Massachusetts
Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
54 Donald Street
South Dartmouth, MA 02748



OUR 67TH YEAR

Volume 35, Issue 10



SEMARA



October 1999

TOWER REPORT

On August 19th the footing was poured for the new transmitter building at the tower site. Next, on August 25th, the foundation was poured. Finally, the floor was poured and on September 9th the cement block walls were completed.

The surplus concrete from the various pours at the tower site was used to finish off a cement patio area between the club and the storage shed. This patio area was originally started with the surplus concrete from the tower base pour. Additionally, the area under the club's side porch was filled with concrete, and a metal post to hold the guy wire from the tri-

band beam was cemented in place on our south property line. The club owes NETCOM a big "Thank You!" for the generous donation of the above concrete.

By mid-September the transmitter building was complete except for electrical wiring (which is in progress as we go to press). Plans call for a bench to be built along the south side of the building to support the 440 and 2 meter (backup) repeaters. The main repeater is mounted in a relay rack which will be located on the north side of the transmitting room.

If all goes well we should be transmitting from the new site in early October!



MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The September business meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by President Chris Smith. Thirty members were present. Following the salute to the flag and roll call, the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read and accepted.

Committee reports followed: *Technical* - The overhauled repeater is ready for service at the new tower site. *Activities* - No report. *Buildings and Grounds* - Ed Blouin, KA1AW, and Bill Miller, K1IBR, were thanked for cutting the grass. The club's storage shed has been cleaned out. Members are requested not to drop off any more junk in the shed. Bill Field, WA1FYF, was thanked for a new rake and cultivator he donated to the club. *Ham Class* - Instructors for another class are solicited. If you are interested, please contact Brad Anselmo, N1VUF. No date has been set for the next class. *Scholarship* - No report. *Constitution* - Work is progressing steadily. Draft copies will be available soon for review. *Tower* - See report on this page for details. *Fleamarket* -



TRANSMITTER BUILDING AT TOWER SITE

ZERO BEAT

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Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
54 Donald Street,
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EDITOR

William M. Miller Jr. K1IBR
Phone: (508) 996-2969
E-Mail: k1ibr@lrh.net

ADVERTISING

Commercial ads the size of a business card will be accepted. Rates are \$5.00 for one insertion, \$20.00 for six insertions, and \$35.00 for twelve insertions.

Non-commercial ads up to forty words in length will be accepted. Rate is \$3.00 for one or \$12.00 for six insertions. Club members have one free non-commercial ad per month.

THE DEADLINE FOR
SUBMITTING ARTICLES FOR
PUBLICATION IS THE 15TH
OF THE PRECEDING MONTH.

MEETING- continued from page one

Ed Blouin, KA1AW, reported that everything is set for the event. He requested donations to help offset the cost of food, passed the hat, and the members donated \$187.00 to the cause!

Communications - We received a notice from the state that annual corporation reports for 1993, 1994, and 1995 must be filed along with the \$45.00 filing fee. The forms will be completed and mailed in.

Ratifications - Richard Halliwell, K1AHA, was reinstated as a full member. Robert Dias, KA1QRP, was upgraded to a full member.

Old Business - The proposed Constitutional amendment eliminating officer term limits was passed. 25 voted in favor, 3 voted against, and two declined to vote.

New Business - None.

For the Good of the Club - Andy Reuter, WA1FNM, requested that anyone interested in running for a club office contact him to get on the nomination list.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Following the meeting, several members headed to "Me & Ed's" restaurant for food and ragchewing.

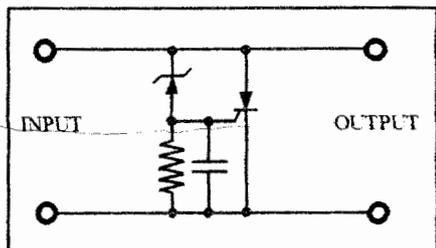
NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

October 2, 1999
10:30 am
SEMARA Clubhouse

LOCAL VE SESSIONS IN OCTOBER

- 09 Falmouth, MA
Ben Fleck
508-540-2583
- 11 Brookline, MA
Bob Wondolowski
508-865-5822
- 14 Providence, RI
Judy Nelson
401-231-9156
- 16 Marlborough, MA
William Wade
781-891-9079
- 20 Cambridge, MA
Nick Alterndburn
617-253-3776

NAME THAT CIRCUIT



- 1.) Zener Oscillator
- 2.) Relaxation Oscillator
- 3.) Barkhausen Oscillator
- 4.) Pulse Generator
- 5.) Power Supply Crowbar

ANSWER - See Last Page

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*"Live for Today
Dream for Tomorrow
Learn from Yesterday"*

Anonymous

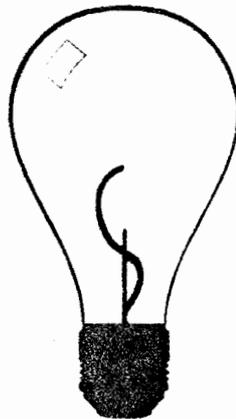


CLUB NOTES

October – the harvest month! Breath in that crisp, cool fall air. Life was never so good. Columbus Day falls on the 11th, and Halloween arrives on the 31st. (Be sure to have plenty of “goodies” for the kids.)



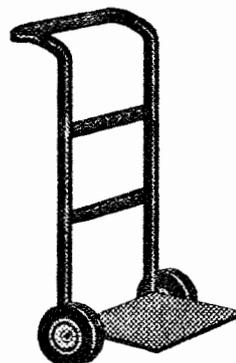
During the last month, the club meeting hall lights were found ‘on’ several times. Help conserve the club’s money by keeping our electric bill low. Please check that all lights are ‘off’ before leaving the clubhouse. Be sure to also check the lights in the Quonset hut and radio room, as they are routinely found left “on”.



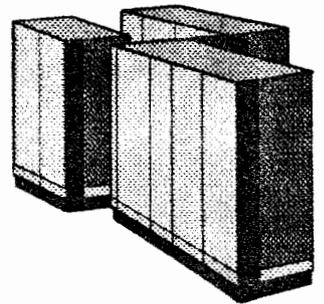
Another former member has reinstated his membership. **Dick Halliwell, KIAHA**, of Dartmouth rejoined the club at the September 2nd business meeting. *Welcome back Dick!*

KIAHA

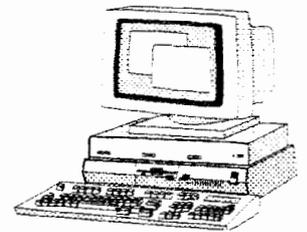
How heavy is the new relay rack mounted repeater? Ask **Bill Miller, K1IBR!** His hand truck had the strut holding two small dolly wheels bent under the weight of the repeater. Bill took it in stride and the next day installed an additional piece of steel plate to reinforce the strut.



The September Tech-Talk “Internet Hacking A-Z” slated for presentation by **Tim Smith, N1BTQ**, was canceled due to the threat of hurricane Floyd. It has been rescheduled to November 18th.



Speaking of the Internet, here is an online amateur radio newsletter site that is chock full of the latest news:

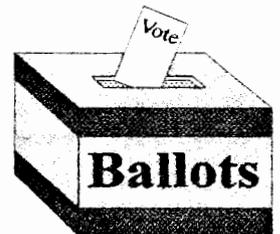


www.hamradio-online.com/

Oops! Did it again! Last month’s “Name that Circuit” answer was “1. - Clipper”. However, it was listed on the last page as “1. - Limiter”.



Interested in running for office? If so, call **Andy Reuter, WA1FNM**, and he will list your name on the nomination list for the November meeting.



Recently several individuals have asked who is **Kita, K9DOG**, that accompanies **Ed, KA1AW**, on the foxhunts. Kita (actually Nikita) is Ed’s pit bull, hence the unique and special call letters!



Over 65? You may be eligible for a life membership in the club. Contact the club’s treasurer for details.

OVER 65?

FLEAMARKET A GREAT SUCCESS!

The annual Fleamarket held by the club on Sunday, September 12th, was a great success. Even the weather cooperated, providing us with a fine sunny day. Overall, the club made a profit exceeding \$500.00 during the four hour event!



CLUB'S TABLE

The club's table was a hotbed of action. Radio and computer equipment donated to support the club was sold at give-away prices. The idea was to sell it all, and not have any left to clutter up the club. The few pieces left over were placed

out in front of the club with a "FREE" sign on them. Alas, nobody took anything away, so **Andy Reuter, WA1FNM**, took the remains to the town dump. The club table sales generated \$200 for the club. Literally "tons" of equipment was donated for the club's table at the fleamarket by **Tony Oliviera, W1PWL**, and **Bob Metivier, N1XZJ**. *Thanks fellows!*

The club's food tent was the usual popular attraction during the fleamarket. Under the guidance of **Ed Blouin, KA1AW**, the operation went smoothly with hot dogs, hamburgers, and linguica selling like hotcakes. All food sold was bought fresh the day before the Fleamarket with money donated by the club members. **Alan Du-long, WB1FQP**, was right in the midst of the food tent operations as he has been for many years. *Thanks, Al!*



FOOD TENT

As usual, **Norm Riley, WIATI**, and **Al Crook, N1ALN**, ran the ticket booth, and conducted the raffles held during the event.



TICKET BOOTH

The customary Fleamarket VE session was held during the Fleamarket. **Larry Houbre, AA1FS**, and his team of VE examiners did the usual great job. Four applicants showed up for testing and three passed the examination! The other one got credit for one-half of the novice exam and hopefully will pass the final element soon. The VE team does a great job, not only at the Fleamarket, but throughout the year. *Thanks!*



VE EXAM IN PROGRESS

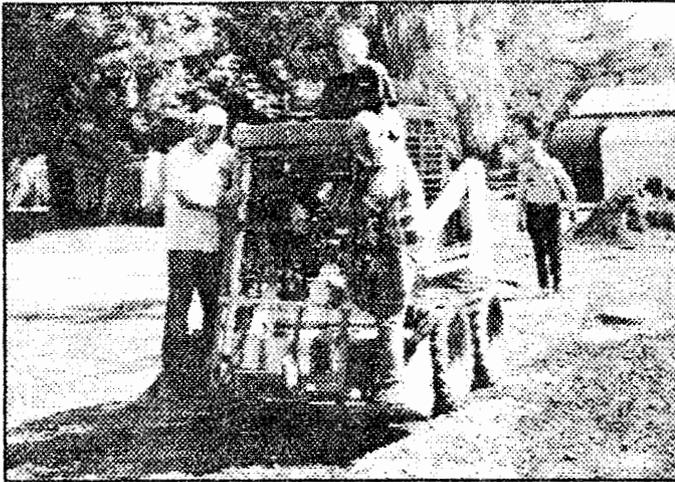


EARLY ARRIVALS SETTING UP SHOP

The annual Fleamarket owes its success to all the club members that pitched in and helped. While it is impossible to name everyone, you know who you are, and the club owes you a big "THANK YOU!"

Digital pictures provided by Scott Szala, W1EV.

REPEATER TEMPORARILY OPERATED FROM NEW TOWER SITE FOR FLEAMARKET TALK-INS



AND AWAY SHE GOES...

Repeater on the way to the tower site. Holding the repeater on the "Bobcat" are Scott Szala, W1EV, Al Costello, KB1EAG (looking up at tower), and Andy Reuter, WA1FNM. Walking along to the rear is Henry Blanchett, W1GYL.

The main 2 meter repeater was hauled back to the new tower site and temporarily setup in the roofless transmitter building. This was done to get good coverage for talk-in stations coming to the fleamarket. The repeater was moved to the site using a "Bobcat" provided by NETCOM Tower Services.

Tests from the new site indicated a problem with the system. The range was not as great as expected. The problem appears to be in the duplexer or connecting cables, since a 3 watt walkie was able to work into Taunton with full quieting when connected to the same antenna. The problem will be corrected before the final installation of the repeater at the new site.

Following the Fleamarket, the repeater was moved back to the club (using Andy Reuter's truck) to allow completion of the new transmitting building without the repeater in the way. It is anticipated that the repeater will be operating from the new site in early October.



Bill Miller, KI1BR, testing the temporary setup.

UNIVERSAL LICENSING SYSTEM ON-LINE FCC TO PHASE OUT FORM 610

On August 16, 1999, the FCC's Universal Licensing System (ULS) went on-line. This new system allows licenses to be renewed on-line using ULS Form 605 which will eventually replace FCC Form 610 in the months to come.

All amateurs are urged to "register" with the ULS system. You must be registered to file an application, renew or modify your current license, or apply for a vanity call. Registration requires a Social Security Number, or a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN). You also will have to supply a "password" to identify yourself in the future. If you previously filed through a VEC and listed your Social Security Number, you are automatically registered in the ULS database.

You can register electronically at the FCC site: <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls/> Click on "TIN/Call Sign Registration" and follow the instructions. A paper registration form you can mail to the FCC is available by calling the FCC's Forms Distribution Center at 1-800-418-3676.

Although you can register and search the FCC's ULS database over the Internet, filing an application on ULS Form 605 requires you to use a toll-free number. Fee payments are by credit card. Full details are available at the above site, except this time click on "Connecting to ULS".

The FCC urges all amateurs to register now, as anyone who fails to register will be unable to receive services from the FCC. The FCC will not process future license grants, upgrades, modifications, or renewals unless you are registered. So register now, even if you have no business to transact at the present time.

Questions? Contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at 1-202-414-1250 for answers. Internet users can E-Mail their questions to:

ulscomm@fcc.gov

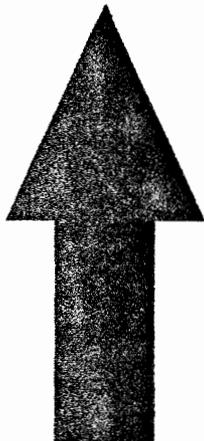


BRIAN PARENT WINS FOXHUNT



Prospective amateur **Brian Parent** (age 10) of South Dartmouth zeroed in on the hidden fox **Bob & Henry**. Brian rode with **Bill Miller, K1IBR**, and used the equipment in Bill's car to find the fox. The first clue **Bob & Henry** sent was, "One if by land, two if by sea." Brian immediately realized that referred to Paul Revere and the search was directed towards the Revere Copper & Brass factory. When the next clue was that from where they were hidden they could have seen something years ago, but not today because it was moved, the old Revere sign with Paul Revere riding his horse came to mind. You could see the sign years ago from the Fairhaven bridge and **Pope's** island. In short order Brian zeroed in on **Bob & Henry** who had hidden on **Pope's** Island behind the Tofu Chinese restaurant. Shortly thereafter **Tim Smith, N1BTQ**, found the fox. Last, but not least was **Ed Blouin, KA1AW** and **Kita, K9DOG**. As winner of this month's hunt, Brian gets to hide next month as the fox. Get ready for a good hunt next month! Brian is real sharp and I'm sure he will find a great place to hide. *Congratulations Brian on your vic-*

DRAMATIC MEMBERSHIP INCREASE!



Eleven new and former members applied for membership at the club's September Fleamarket! Never before have so many candidates joined the club at one time. One member joked that if this keeps up we will have to build an addition on the clubhouse! This latest influx of members raises the total number of club members to 119.



SEMARA CHRISTMAS PARTY

The club's annual Christmas Party will be held on December 11, 1999 at Thad's Steakhouse in New Bedford. The cocktail hour starts at 6 pm, with dinner scheduled for 7 pm. Three meal choices are available:

1. Roast Prime Rib of Beef, au jus.
2. Baked Stuffed Jumbo Shrimp, drawn butter.
3. Whole Stuffed Boneless Breast of Chicken.

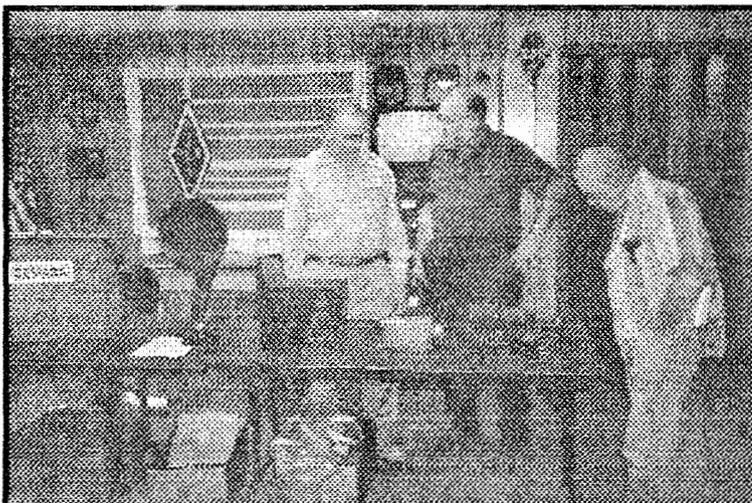
The price is \$16.00 per person. There is a limit of 48 tickets, and full payment along with meal selections is required by the November 4th business meeting. Contact Janice or Chris Smith to reserve your place at this annual gala event.

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Apples - Pears - Peaches
Sweet Apple Cider - Squash
Westport Macomber Turnips
Hay & Custom Work



Bill Miller, K1IBR, (center) asks Charlie Days, WA1JFD, about the spark transmitting equipment that Charlie brought to his Tech Talk last August. Andy Reuter, WA1FNM, looks on.

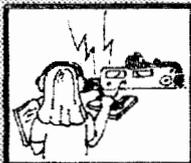
Picture courtesy Bill Rovas, WA1APX 8

TECHNICAL TIPS

Here are a few tips to get your workbench ready for winter activity. 1) Use a large desk organizer to hold your pens, pencils, paper, calculator, small rule, etc. It helps keep clutter down! 2) Fill a coffee mug with Q-Tips. You will find a hundred uses for them! 3) Install a wall telephone within easy reach. 4) Save Popsicle sticks and fill a mug with them. Great for mixing epoxy and spreading heat sink grease. 5) Calibrate all your test equipment. (Bet you haven't done this in years!) 6) Stock up on ty-raps, solder, solder-wick, hard candy, hookup wire, etc.

1999 FLEAMARKETS

- Oct 8,9 - Hoss Traders
Rochester, NH
- Oct 10 - NUTMEG Convention,
Wallingford, CT
- Oct 17 - MIT Flea
Cambridge, MA
- Nov 6 - IRS
Manchester, NH
- Nov 20 - WARA Auction
Newton, MA
- Nov 23 - NE Antique RC
Nashua, NH



NET DIRECTORY

— Sunday —		
8am	28.375	SEMARA NET
9:30 am	50.225	Yankee SSB
3pm	28.470	UFO
7pm	147.000+	Swap Net
— 4th Sunday —		
9pm	449.575	EM-ARRL
— Daily —		
5:30 pm	3.915	EM/RI NTS ssb
7&10 pm	3.658	EM/RI NTS cw
6:45 pm	147.315+	NTS/Trivia
7pm	146.550	SEMARA NET
8pm	145.230-	EM-NTS
— Monday to Friday —		
8am	14.262	SEMARA NET
8pm	145.490-	Weather
— Saturday & Sunday —		
8am	7.237	UFO
— Thursday —		
7pm	14.264	UFO
8pm	147.180+	Trivia
— Saturday —		
7:30 pm	3.978	UFO
1800G	14.300	Coast Guard
— SEMCARES NET —		
1st Sunday of the month at 7:30 pm		
145.490- (Fairhaven Repeater)		

VISIT THE SEMARA WEBSITES



WWW.LRH.NET/SEMARA/SEMARA.HTM

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SEMARA OFFICERS

1999



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Vice-President Robert Metivier, N1XZJ
Secretary Henry Blanchett, W1GYL
Treasurer Bradford Anselmo, N1VUF

Board of Directors:

Andrew Reuter, WA1FNM
 Martin Jordan, KA1YFV
 Scott Szala, W1EV

Trustees:

William M. Miller Jr., K1IBR- Chairman
 Norman Riley, W1ATI
 Frank Fonseca, WB1ASD
 Martin F. Jordan, KA1YFV
 William Vincent, W1POW

SEMARA EVENT CALENDAR

OCTOBER 1999

- 2 - VE Session, 10:30 am
- 7 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 14 - 2 Meter Foxhunt @ clubhouse, 7:00 pm
- 21 - Tech-Talk, 7:00 pm - "SWR Myths Exposed" by Bill Miller, K1IBR
- 28 - Board of Directors Meeting, 7:00 pm



NOVEMBER 1999

- 4 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 6 - VE Session, 10:30 am
- 11 - 2 Meter Foxhunt @ Clubhouse, 7:00 pm
- 13 - SEMCARES "Emergency Communications Workshop" 9 am to 4 pm
- 15 - SEMCARES "Strategy Meeting" 7:30 pm
- 18 - Tech-Talk, "Internet Hacking A to Z"

Coffee Hour at the clubhouse every Sunday at 9:00 am. Drop by and ragchew!

LOCAL REPEATER DIRECTORY

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location	Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
144				440			
145.150 -		WA1DGW	Fall River	441.400 +	192.8	WG1U	Assonet
145.490 -		KA1WBF	Fairhaven	442.200 +		N1NRL	Fall River
146.445 +1Mhz	91.5	KB1BWN	Dartmouth	442.350 +	141.3	N1OFD	Acushnet
146.655 -	88.5	WA1GPO	Falmouth	442.600 +	100.0	K1LIQ	Tiverton, RI
146.685 -		N1OEG	Plymouth	443.450 +	88.5	K1MYL	Westport
146.955 -	88.5	K1PDO	Dennis	443.600 +		NS1N	Norwell
147.000 +	67.0	W1AEC	Dartmouth	443.800 +	88.5	N1RFH	Dartmouth
147.045 +		W1UMG	Yarmouth	443.850 +	131.8	W1ARM	Chatham
147.135 +	67.0	ND1N	Taunton	444.250 +	141.3	WA1GPO	Falmouth
147.180 +	77.0	N1FDX	Bridgewater	444.350 +	88.5	W1ACT	Fall River
147.315 +	156.7	N1BBT	Wareham	444.550 +		N1FDX	Bridgewater
220				447.075 -		N1DZD	Kingston
224.340 -		N1SGK	Dennis	NAME THAT CIRCUIT ANSWER: <small>5. Power Supply Crowbar</small>			

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